

*Antel.  
9. Data Systems*

DCI-IC-74-1112

5 March 1974

X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: 

SUBJECT : CIA/CRS Project SAFE (Support for Analyst File Environment)

1. Attached is a pamphlet prepared by CIA/CRS to describe its developmental project SAFE. The development plan calls for collecting basic design data during FY-74, with the assistance of several CIA/DDI operating branches serving as "pilots." Based on this, "major software work" is planned for FY-75, leading to a system that will support 150 remote terminal stations. In subsequent years the system would be expanded.

2. The project's rationale is based on the premise that production analysts "can not presently exploit fully their documents (and) information services."

3. The design goal is to develop a system whereby "a production analyst can, through a single remote terminal and a single query language, access a wide array of information sources, and build and maintain files of special interest to him."

4. The design concepts include developing capabilities to "allow analysts to view their electrical 'mail'" and to file any message and add comments thereto. Also, the analyst would be able to search, using a single query language, an array of files.

5. It would appear from the attached pamphlet that Project SAFE is wholly a CIA-internal developmental project, without involvement to date of other intelligence agencies concerned with supporting production analysts. It appears to involve external contractor support.

6. My preliminary view - prior to receiving a briefing on SAFE - is that the underlying problem being addressed certainly exists, both in CIA and throughout the community. An experimental effort seems to be a constructive step. Failure to date to involve IC Staff is another example of compartmentalized efforts to solve a larger problem, and one which ICS is charged with addressing in an overall sense under the Presidential directive of November 1971.

Attachment (with orig. and subj. file only)

  
AC/IHC

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